

SOUTH BEND NEWS-TIMES

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A GENERAL OF INDUSTRY.

When you think of telephone magnates, your mind turns inevitably to Theodore Vail and to Bell, the inventor—men who brought this great utility into common use and multiplied the joys of living a hundred fold.

You read with admiration of the pioneers of this and other industries and crown them with a kingship because of the driving purpose that made their dreams realities.

Consider, then, for a minute, another who labored under the most difficult of handicaps, went into this same field of telephony and wrested from it what is a larger fortune for him than any millions may mean to the others who have profited largely.

Zora E. Q. Tinsley is a negro and blind. Imagine only can supply the names for which his initials stand.

He worked as a hod carrier, mixing mortar and doing the arduous, slaving labor that came to him.

One day there was an accident. Some bricks dropped into a pool of unslackened lime, the splattering fire struck his eyes and his sight was forever gone.

He tramped out of Texas into Muskogee, Okla., broke, an object of some pity but in the country where a black skin is more likely to excite laughter than charity.

He was compelled to walk, for his eyes would not allow him to steal rides and as he trudged through the long country roads and knocked on the doors of farm houses, he discovered that very few had telephones and that peevish wives spluttered their protests against the aloofness of their condition and the lack of contact with the outside world.

His brain was not blind. It saw the chance. He would build a telephone line for the farmers. His very lack of requirements of a telephone service was an asset, for he was not terrified by unknown difficulties.

He went to the Muskogee exchange and, finding the manager curious, and perhaps a little amused, made a bargain to lease a discarded switchboard and enough instruments for six subscribers.

He had the promises of three farmers, who regarded it as a joke, to pay him a few dollars a month when he installed his line.

He had some nerve and more faith and after he got the worn out board he bought about \$10 worth of wire on credit from a storekeeper who was over-supplied and also incredulous but willing to take a chance.

He chopped his own poles from the woods, and strung the wires and got his primitive machines working.

That was six years ago. Today he owns lines running over 45 miles of country west of Muskogee. He has a connection with the city exchange which is glad to get his business. He collects the rental, pays a portion to the main lines, has a girl to run the switchboard, and keeps on in his crude way extending his service.

His whole investment now is only \$1,500. But there are miles of barren places that thank this blind negro for his service and the chance he brought them to be linked with the outside world.

He earns his own living, a comfortable one and is a leading citizen of his race.

Think of the big millionaires and their troubles in founding enterprises. Pay to them all the tributes that is their due.

Then consider the blind darkey, tramping the hard path of charity, who founded his own enterprise. Think of his hours of discouragement, of crueling toil, of days of despondency which he must have had.

Think, too, of the indomitable courage of one who could rise above the handicap of race, the appalling obstacle of sightlessness, the drag of ignorance and conquer the world that he claimed for his own.

When you write the list of captains of industry, leave out this Zora E. Q. Tinsley, blind negro. He should be dubbed a general.

NO SHACKLES ON THE PRESS.

The decision of the courts that city officials, presuming to act in behalf of municipalities as corporate bodies, may not sue newspapers for libel will meet with approval of the ordinary citizen who knows that his own liberties of expression and indissolubly linked with those of freedom of the press.

The city administration of Chicago brought suit for \$10,000,000 against the Chicago Tribune and the Chicago Daily News, alleging that their publication of statements that the city was bankrupt, had cost the tax payers at least this amount of money.

The scheme was ingenious but the precedent of permitting puffed officers to use their political power to destroy their critics presented a more dangerous attack on public good than was involved in the criticism—even if that criticism was willfully false.

The penalty paid by newspapers which deliberately malign and libel their home cities is paid in more direct ways than in libel verdicts.

If their attacks are vicious, untrue and political, their readers leave them and they commit suicide in their ill-starred selfish purposes.

If their attacks are based upon truth, they only fulfill a duty owed to their readers and their readers are in such changes of government as will make their readers and themselves happier and more prosperous.

Any limitation upon the power of the press to expose wrong, any limitation upon freedom of speech, by the press or the individual, is a blow at the very foundation of our republic.

There is a remedy for every wrong. The newspaper which wrongs its readers by libelling government pays and pays hard. In the freedom of the honest newspaper to publish facts lies the only safeguard against dishonest government.

KAHN TO THE RESCUE.

Otto Kahn, big international banker, has appealed to the senate to cut down the taxes upon huge incomes and to provide against tax-exempt securities issued by states and cities.

His argument is hardly one that will appeal to the general public nor to the man of so-called "mod-

erate income," which in the language of the big bankers means anywhere from \$30,000 to \$50,000 a year.

The tax bill passed by the house cut down the rate of taxes on the big fellows—those of a quarter a million a year or more and a year and left the old burdens upon these "moderates."

It is easily demonstrated that the great bulk of useful enterprises are directed by men who have moderate incomes, rather than by the few whose incomes run into huge sums for which they have no personal use and to whom more money simply satisfies an acquisitive sense rather than being a spur to further ambitious efforts.

Mr. Kahn pleads that the tax on big fortunes should be cut down because no European country taxes its ultra-rich so high a rate. He writes to the senate and the country:

"But our federal surtaxes rise to rates higher than exist in the tax schedules of any other nation, and that without taking into account state income taxes, which are unknown in Europe. It cannot be supposed that European peoples have particular tenderness for rich men, any more than we have, or that in the extremity of their needs they would hesitate to go the limit in exacting contributions from wealth. But these nations have larger and longer experience in these matters of governmental economies than we have and they have learned that there is a limit beyond which direct taxation cannot go without consequences both damaging to national revenue and dangerous to national well-being. Even if our highest surtax-rate is reduced to 32 percent, it will still be in excess of the highest surtax rate in most European countries."

There are a lot of things in America, thank God, which do not exist in any European countries.

America has never been hampered in its destiny by any thought that the old monarchies had never tried what appealed to the American conscience as justice. Mr. Kahn might be reminded that the European countries had centuries of experience in monarchies as well as taxes—but that did not stop the colonies from becoming independent.

His fear that these rich men will send their dollars in the state and municipal bonds if they are taxed high rates will not alarm the people who want public improvements.

Cities need money. The dollars loaned to them will be working for all the people. Possibly the solution for the problem of centralization of wealth lies in taxing wealth into public enterprises.

If the only outlet for swollen incomes is more loans to the public, the scheme might work out well for the human limitations placed upon consumption, even in most lavish forms, would leave the owner of an income over a million at a loss to know what to do with it except invest.

In time the very payment of interest on tax exempt securities would become something of a fiction, for the only thing that could be done with it is to buy more tax exempt securities.

A tax, in the last analysis, is private money taken for public use. The million dollar a year boys will ultimately find no "haven"—the word is Mr. Kahn's—in the tax exempt purchase.

In the meantime if there is to be any inducement held out to private capital, tax burdens should fall least heavily upon those to whom the getting of dollars still means something.

OPEN THE DOORS.

"If we are to have a world safe for democracy, we must begin to act like a democracy, not continue to ape the ponderous secrecy and poppycock of the outworn autocracies. Secrecy was their strongest weapon. It is our one vital danger. Without publicity—such publicity as, for instance, the American congress has or the British parliament enjoys—the conference of the allies will become a feudal council and its final agreement a war-breeding alliance."

This is the warning of William Allen White, editor, publicist and patriot in a current issue of *Colliers*, in an appeal for open sessions of the disarmament conference.

The need of such a demand on the part of the American people is emphasized by the first meeting of the American delegates and the immediate letter of Pres't Harding warning the people that they must expect no complete disarmament.

The delegates named are stated to be in agreement that while they might favor publicity, it would be dangerous to offend the European and Japanese statesmen to announce such a position and that the others may demand secrecy.

Pres't Wilson held the destinies of the world, backed as he was by the hopes, the ambitions, the desires of human beings of all nations, when he declared for "open covenants, openly arrived at." He had appealed to the heart of men above the desires of autocratic rulers.

When the doors were locked upon the Paris conference and there began that haggling over physical possessions, his power went and the thing he most desired—a League of Nations that would mean universal peace—went with it when he was outguessed by the European diplomats sent there to get material things.

There is yet time to save this situation and to make this conference of use to the world, despite the timidity and the fears of the men in high places.

If the people of America demand that they and the peoples of every other nation watch these men who are sent to represent them, the doors can be opened and there will be less danger that selfish trades, bad bargains, evil agreements for the sake of expediency, will wreck the hopes of the world.

Let Mr. White sound again his warning, which is written to you:

"We are about to enter either a quadruple alliance that will bind us through our financial holdings into the heart of the world's great tragedy, or we are about to write a clause of the League of Nations that will have the republican face and bring us into that group of nations. In either case the destiny of every American and his children and his grandchildren is bound up in the outcome of this conference. His taxes, his food, his standard of living, his very life itself through potential wars, are to be determined in great measure by this conference. What right have any four American commissioners—however wise they may be, and however disinterested and high-minded they may be—to sit in such a council behind closed doors with the gamblers of Europe and hazard our destiny?"

Mexico is so quiet you can hear a good fight two blocks away.

A small boy can't see why they call it heaven when the big fire is elsewhere.

"Reformers Try to Stop Smoking"—headline. Takes will power.

SHORT FURROWS

By Kin Hubbard

The current issue of the Weekly Ship Horn carries an illuminating article on the business condition of our town. It was written after a painstaking investigation, and there's evidently no effort made to either magnify or conceal the real business situation. The plain facts are laid bare. The reader may make his own deductions. It's the unvarnished truth about business, and after carefully reading it, we can see no real cause for alarm. Rather we find much that's encouraging. The trend is undoubtedly toward better times if one'll just analyze the facts with an open mind. Some gloomy situations have been dragged into the open but they should be no more than allowed to be disheartened us, or blind us, to much that is good and promising. A new pool table has been ordered by the Elite Billiard Hall, the ever increasing business demand it. Transient business at the New Palace hotel is the worst in years, but an unusually lively June patronage. The carry on concern over till December when it is believed the beds will fill up again. The saw mill took a little spill Monday, but closed down again Tuesday till next Friday. No coal was delivered in August as against twenty-one tons for the corresponding month last year. This is explained by the unusual cost per ton. It is believed that a cold wave will bring about a normal delivery. Plaid sport skirts held their own along with former Augusts, and the September demand started off lively. The "shoot-in" gallery has been an "is paying" a fine return on the investment. Although the proprietor says it would be hard to estimate how much he would have lost if ever-buddy had been working. The little activity about the fire department, but no complaint. The photograph gallery is back on its orders, while the fires have been out at the lime kiln with no indications of resumption. The Fairy Grotto Picture Palace is enlarging its seating capacity, and the manager says that he has no serious apprehension that the home "I ever" will be able to compete with him. He talked optimistically about unemployment continuing unabated. The Star grocery is carrying more families than ever before. The proprietor doubts if the store ever had

more charge accounts since its inception. He says the great problem is to get efficient collectors. At Melodeon hall it was learned that "musical comedy" business had been good, but that many skirt plays had starved to death. The greatest activity was noted at the hostelry an previous stone counters at the Monarch 3 and 10. There was a noticeable lethargy about the kitchen ware and half sales departments. Rouge was holding its own and kites was moving fast. The manager was all smiles, and said he could not see how times ever could deteriorate back to where they were. At the Graeco-Roman candy bazaar ever-buddy was pale and overworked. The public library reported a steady demand for light weight fiction. At the Imperial garage the congestion was found to be frightful, and a new ninety foot addition will soon be under cover if the carpenters stay on the job. A shortage of car washers was reported. At the Gents Wear Shop great stacks of unsold shirts greeted the eye. Several adjustments were being made, but no money was changing hands. At the toy balloon factory they were too busy to talk.



Disarmament Agenda

By James J. Montague

Program of the Gunmen and Burglars' Benevolent association: Questions to be argued: Limitations of weapons to pop-guns.

Only first story windows to be entered.

Stuffing of sand bags with feathers.

Look to be confined to spare change found in trousers pockets.

Locksmiths to be sent back to house to repair all locks and hinges removed or damaged.

In any case where member entering house is challenged to combat, 16-ounce boxing gloves to be used.

One gun man to one street. One burglar to one ward. Neither gun men nor burglars to work in pairs.

If any dispute as to amount taken or weapons used, burglars and victims to have appeal to nearest police court.

Program of Denny Riley and Mickey Dunn's Gangs (with headquarters respectively back of the Liberty garage and old flour mill).

Rock piles collected at both headquarters to be removed and thrown into the creek.

Stingshots to be inspected and re-equipped with lightest rubber bands.

No single member of either gang to be picked on by more than one member of opposing gang at a time.

Members of either gang wheeling baby carriages to be left alone till baby can be parked in care of some responsible person.

No clothes to be tied at swimming holes except in manner to be agreed on at conference.

No hats to be knocked off combatant sissy kids who may happen to be seen in the neighborhood.

Cats belonging to little girls not to be used as targets for sling shots.

No poems or other insulting inscriptions concerning members of opposing gang to be posted on walls.

As to farmers in outskirts owning apple trees, fruit vendors owning carts—procedure employed formerly expressly permitted.

Program of Dorcas Sewing society: Following discussions forbidden: How Mr. Jones got rich so soon, together with speculation as to whether it was inherited or got dishonestly.

Why young minister has stopped calling on Mrs. Bascom's eldest daughter except in presence of Mrs. Bascom.

Whether principal of Public School No. 3 left a wife in Foggy's Ferry, as has been intimated by the sister of the brother-in-law of his former landlord here, or whether his intentions are entirely straightforward with regard to the librarian.

Following customs forbidden: Any member calling up servant of another member during other member's absence from home and offering her more money.

Any member asking any servant of another member's family anything about meals served in other member's house, or whether bills are paid or unpaid.

Any member seeking to secure by devious questions, supplemented by calculations in written or mental arithmetic, the age of another. For example ascertaining date of china wedding and then casually inquiring, "I suppose you were about 20 when you were married weren't you, dearie?"

Any comments such as: "How well that voice made over, didn't it," when member appears with ostensibly new dress, or, "How durable that hat has been," in event of apparently new hat appearing.

No mention at any discussion of backward children when it is known that member's son or daughter has had to be tutored at home.

Ban on use of expression "cat" unless member to whom it is applied be present.

Program of U. S. senate: Speeches limited to five minutes.

This is a Utopian dream, and there is no possible prospect of its adoption.

MRS. SOLOMAN SAYS--

By Helen Rowland

Being Confessions of Wife No. 700th

There are two kinds of fat men—natural and incorrigible.

A fat man of 50 is a victim of nature—and nobody blames him.

No woman resents the pardonable, if unbecoming, plumpness that gradually envelops her. Youthful ideal and transforms him into a nice, comfortable Middle-aged Husband.

But the fat man of 30, 40, or even 45 is HIS OWN FAT!

And if "nobody loves" him, it is—

Because he looks as though he had a roast-beef soul!

Because he takes up two seats in complacent and self-satisfied.

Because he is too chubbily to be decorative, and too clumsy to be useful.

Because he cheerfully lets everybody else do his worrying for him.

Because he takes up two seats in a street car, and seems to want three.

Because he sleeps so soundly, that it gives you insomnia just to think of him; and his appetite is so good, that it takes away yours just to watch him eat.

Because, wherever he may be, the biggest chair and the most comfortable spot are always ceded to him, by divine right.

Because you suspect that he MUST be either lazy, or self-indulgent, or utterly shameless—or he wouldn't BE FAT!

Because NOTHING flutters him.

Because his comfort and his stomach are his divinity, on which you must lay down all your romantic dreams, your snorts, your illusions and your intellectual diversions—if you are his wife.

Because his soul has usually been submerged beneath a layer of flesh and physical well-being, and his sentiment (if he has any) is

drowned in a consuming passion for food and creature comforts.

That is WHY he is fat!

And, IF, by chance, any woman does love him, it is—

Because he is fat!

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DEMOCRATS PLAN INCOME TAX CUT

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—A concerted movement to obtain a substantial reduction of the income taxes paid by persons with moderate incomes was determined upon today at a conference of the democratic members of the senate finance committee.

It was decided to press for the acceptance of the proposal of Sen. Walsh, Democrat, Massachusetts, for a reduction of the smaller income tax rate to two percent on incomes

of \$5,000 or less; 4 percent on incomes from \$5,000 to \$10,000 and 6 percent on incomes from \$10,000 to \$15,000. The tax at present is 4 percent on \$5,000 or less, 5 percent above \$5,000.

Read the puzzle advertisement in the classified display column. Earn a nice present.



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New Arrivals

All Exclusive Andrea Patterns

Mid-winter styles

Fur trimmed Brocades and Velvets

\$10.00, \$12.50, \$15.00, \$18.00

and up

The Ellsworth Store



Building Financial Independence for Your Family

THROUGH careful and systematic investment, you can build an income for yourself and your family that will put you beyond the reach of circumstances. People of moderate means are learning that it isn't necessary to be a capitalist to take advantage of investment opportunities.

The most important thing is system in your plan of investment. Haphazard, irregular investment never amounts to much. The best way is to determine the amount you can afford to set aside for investment, and then to go ahead on a regular, systematic plan.

This bank will be glad to help you work out a plan by which you can buy sound securities regularly in amounts suited to your means.

Our knowledge of safe investments may save you from costly mistakes. Our advice is given willingly and without obligation.

ST. JOSEPH LOAN & TRUST CO.

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY SAVINGS BANK

J. M. S. Building

You need not pay all in 30 days. We arrange terms to suit.

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